

2015 Continuum of Care (CoC) Consolidated Application Work Group
Iowa Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC)
Recommendations to Iowa Council on Homelessness
July 10, 2015

Background:

To prepare for the upcoming application, the 2015 CoC Consolidated Application Work Group has been reviewing the most recent full CoC Consolidated Application submitted to HUD. The goal is to identify ways of improving next round's score. The score is important, both to ensure renewal projects continue to receive funding, and to be competitive for possible new projects. The group has identified some specific action steps the Iowa Council on Homelessness can take, which may help improve this score. These steps are described below. Additional steps may be identified, as the group continues its work.

Recommendations to the Iowa Council on Homelessness:

1. Request the Research & Analysis Committee to create a process for review of Quarterly Performance Reports for Iowa Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC) Program-funded projects; also consider if this process should include Iowa Statewide Emergency Solutions Grant-funded projects.
2. Consider prohibiting Iowa Balance of State CoC Program-funded projects from requiring income as an eligibility requirement.
3. Review and adopt the HUD CPD Notice 14-012: "Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing."
4. Authorize the Iowa Finance Authority to draft and submit an Iowa Balance of State Planning Project for the 2015 CoC competition. Up to \$207,937 is available, and it is available outside of the amount available for all other CoC project types. As the Collaborative Applicant, the Iowa Finance Authority is the only entity allowed by HUD to submit a Planning Project for the Iowa Balance of State.
5. Direct Iowa Balance of State CoC-funded Rapid Rehousing projects to follow the ESG Interim Rule for Rapid Rehousing, except in cases where the CoC Program rules conflict. This guide from HUD provides an overview of key differences between ESG- and CoC-funded Rapid Rehousing projects: https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Rapid_Re-Housing_ESG_vs_CoC.pdf.
6. Direct Iowa Balance of State CoC-funded Rapid Rehousing projects to follow a Housing First approach; specifically, to prohibit requiring income, sobriety, or treatment-compliance for eligibility.